FREE GRATIS

TRI-LINGUAL

IRONBOUND VOICES

Vol. 18 No. 2 Summer 1995



ICC Celebrates Portugal Day 1995!

Two New Faces At ICC

There are two new staff persons at the Ironbound Community Corporation.

Andre Hixon has joined ICC as the new driver for ICC's Senior Ride Progarm. Andre is a graduate of the Ironbound Community School, Weequahic High School, and most recently, has been a student at Bloomfield Community College.





Kerry Margaret Butch has been hired as a community organizer. Kerry comes to ICC from New Jersey Community Water Watch, where she recently graduated from the AmeriCorps Volunteer Program. She is a graduate of George Mason University. Among her responsibilities, Kerry will coordinate the activities of the Ironbound Committee Against Toxic Waste.

Welcome Andre and Kerry!

Cover Story:
Portugal Day Parade!

The **Ironbound Community Corporation** joined in the celebration of Portugal Day Parade and had a complete marching contingent. Preschool children from the Ironbound Childrens' Center marched with their parents and teachers, wearing red and white, the school colors, and carrying flags of Portugal. All three ICC vehicles were in the parade: the Senior Ride Car, the Meals on Wheels Van, and the School Bus. Members of the Ironbound Committee Against Toxic Waste joined the ICC delegation and carried signs about the continuing problem of pollution in the neighborhood. ICATW passed out fliers about their next meeting to the appreciative crowd.

Parents

Are you trying to find affordable and quality after school child care?

The Ironbound Community Corporation is offering an After School Program for children ages 5-10. The hours are 2:30 -6:15 PM, Monday through Friday, and 8:30 AM - 6:15 PM on school holidays. The fee is $35 a week.

Registration forms are available at Ironbound Community Corporation, 432 Lafayette St., Newark, N.J. You can also call at 465-0947.

Don't wait! Your child is not only important to you, but also to us!

Mercury Menace

In 1989, when Ironbound residents were fighting to stop a garbage incinerator from being built in their neighborhood, city, county and state officials promised residents that the incinerator would have "state-of-the art" technology and careful and constant monitoring to make sure that they are not polluting the air.

Now, the state is backing away from a regulation to tightly control mercury pollution from incinerators. A regulation passed last year set a standard for the amount of mercury which could be given off by a garbage incinerator. The Whitman administration is proposing a new regulation, which would allow much more mercury to go into the air.

Under the old regulation, incinerator operators were required to test and report four times a year to make sure they were not giving off more mercury than the standard. The new regulation would allow the incinerator operators to report only once a year, and give the average of the 4 quarterly tests. The incinerators could be polluting for good parts of the year, but when it is averaged out it won't be above the standard. "This means there is no protection," said Sharon Finlayson. "This is a gift to industry, and who knows what it will cost to the public financially and healthwise." Ms. Finlayson was a member of a special task force made up of scientists, industry officials and citizen groups, which was established under former Governor Florio, whose report led to the original mercury regulation.

The new bill also allows the incinerators another way to meet the standard: by having an 80% reduction in the amount of mercury they produce. If they are producing a very high amount of mercury to start out with, this means they could still be producing amounts way over the mercury standard. "This will be a regulation **in words only**," said Ms. Finlayson. "People will think that they are being protected but in reality, it means nothing."

Under the old regulation, if an incinerator was found to be polluting with mercury, there were

continued on p.4

So What's Wrong With Mercury?

In 1994, the State of New Jersey issued a public health notice warning people not to eat certain kinds of fish at 15 locations around the state. Why was human consumption of those fish banned? Mercury contamination.

Mercury is a heavy silver-white poisonous metallic element that is a liquid at ordinary temperatures.

Mercury can cause nerve and brain damage in humans. This could show itself itself in hand tremors, speech impediments, and lack of coordination, blindness and deafness. Mercury can also cause birth defects, and affect the reproductive ability of men and women.

One of the biggest sources of mercury in the air is coal-burning power plants. Another is municipal incinerators. (Used batteries and flourescent bulbs are the biggest source of mercury in garbage, although there are new programs beginning to keep these items out of the garbage which goes into the incinerator). Since "what goes up must come down", mercury returns to the earth when it rains. Mercury pollutes the water and the surface soil. Humans contact mercury in the ground when they garden or play sports. How dangerous is this? Imagine this: if dirt containing a speck of mercury smaller than a pinhead was tracked into a bedroom, and then vacuumed up, the air in the room could still be hazardous to a child who slept there.

Once mercury is in the soil, water or food chain, it is very hard to get it out. It is extremely toxic, and very serious, especially for children and pregnant women.

(This information is taken from a brochure prepared by the Delaware Valley Concerned Citizens).

East Side H.O.P.E. Brings Hope!



The H.O.P.E. (Help Our Planet Evolve) Club at East Side High School held its anual Environmental Fair on May 13, 1995. Many kinds of activities concerning pollution, the environment, and what we can do to help took place during the day. Shown above, are students doing face-painting for youngsters who came to the Fair.



The H.O.P.E. Environmental Club also worked with the Greater Newark Conservancy to plant 37 trees along Van Buren and Market Streets. H.O.P.E. members spent 2 full months after school doing a tree inventory in the area. Now there are 37 new trees thanks to the work of H.O.P.E. members!

Mercury Menance

continued

penalties with fines ranging from $104,000 to $300,000. The state now wants to lower the proposed fines to $8000 to $10,000 ($27.40 a day, according to the Star Ledger, June 11, 1995). "These fines are so low that some operators could probably choose to pay them rather than do anything to stop the mercury," said Joe Nardone, from the Ironbound Committee Against Toxic Waste (ICATW). "It's ridiculous."

Mercury is a highly toxic metal whch can cause damage to the nervous system and kidneys and hurt mental development.

A study of rainwater in the state of New Jersey showed mercury levels which were much higher than the level which is considered healthy. Unsafe levels of mercury have been found in fish in lakes, streams and rivers, and 300 wells have been closed because of high mercury levels. Incinerators release hundreds of pounds of mercury into the air each year.

"We have got to fight this," said June Kruszewski, from the ICATW. "We cannot allow our children to get poisoned. If there are any ways to control this mercury pollution, it should be done. What's more important, corporations' profits, or our childrens' health?"

The ICATW has asked the Newark City Council, and the County Board of Freeholders to pass resolutions opposing the changes. There will be a public hearing about the proposed changes on July 11 in Trenton. For information about upcoming meetings, public hearings, and how you can help in this fight, Call Kerry Butch at 589-4668.

City Council Passes ICATW Resolution

The Newark City Council has passed a resolution, which the ICATW urged it to adopt, opposing the weakening of the mercury regulations in New Jersey. The unanimous vote was taken at the June 27, 1995 meeting.

Ironbound Celebrates Diversity



The Ironbound Childrens' Center celebrated its "Multi-Cultural Day" as part of the Week of the Young Child in April, 1995. Shown above, are students in the native costumes of various countries. Parents contributed by making ethnic food, and everyone enjoyed a delicious international meal.

South St. Area Residents Fight For Their Neighborhood

Residents in the South Street School area are circulating a petition against the opening of a "club"or bar, which they say will feature nude or scantily clothed dancers, at 149 South St. Over 100 people came to a meeting on June 15 held at the First Mt. Zion Baptist Church to oppose the bar.

Rev. Ronald Durham, pastor of the church, and Joseph Da Costa, principal of South St. School are among those against the bar. A number of city and state officials attended the meeting to support area reasidents, including, Councilman Henry Martinez, Assemblyman Willie Brown, Senator Ronald Rice, and Councilman Donald Tucker.

In a phone interview, a spokesman from the City's zoning department said the owners still have to apply for a zoning variance. Property owners near the proposed bar would be notified of a date, and a hearing will be held about the variance at City Hall.

"I wouldn't want this place next to my daughter's school," Principal Da Costa said. "I don't think any parent would. It doesn't send the right kind of message to our children."

Rev. Durham is quoted in the Star Ledger as saying, "It is incredible that this gentleman would come into a community like this. If his business belongs anywehre, it is in a remote area - out on the highway somewhere where it is not going to be a visible detraction for children... He (the owner) can make it easy for himself by finding another location. We are not going away."

Pollution Related Diseases Are Preventable!

by Tiwana Steward

On June 6, 1995, national medical experts joined with their New Jersey counterparts at the **Conference on Health and the Environment**, in order to present and discuss evidence linking pollution to diasease in New Jersey. The experts and public policy activists called on the state legislature and Governor Whitman to reverse their current policy, and set strong environmental protection and public health goals.

"The relationship between disease and the environment is well documented," stated Samuel Epstein, M.D., well known for his book, **The Politics of Cancer.** "The evidence linking the two is becoming even greater as pollution levels riase, and we are finding that many cancers are environmentally caused, and therefore, preventable."

"We are finding that many cancers are environmentally caused, and therefore preventable."

Dr. Devra Lee Davies, M.D., M.P.H., Senior Adviser to the Assistant Secretary for Health and Adviser to the United States Department of Health and Human Services expressed concern over the mounting evidence linking breast cancer to the environment. Breast cancer is the most common cancer among women. "Whether you are a one breasted woman, two breasted or no breasted, this is a two fisted fight," stated Bella Abzug, international women's health activist, regarding New Jersey's high incidence of breast cancer. She called on Governor Whitman to "Put on your boxing gloves and knock this disease out!"

"If we organize, we can make a difference," stated Lois Gibbs, founder of the Citizens' Clearinghouse for Hazardous Waste. She cited her own experience at Love Canal and throughout the country in organizing citizens to change public policy.



Congratulations!

Congratulations to the winners of the citywide "Make A Book Contest" sponsored by the Newark Public Library. Nearly all the winners were from Ann St. School. Shown above with Principal Joseph Maccia, and their 3rd grade teacher, Mrs. Anne Caswell, are (left to right): Stephanie Costa, Joseph Rodriguez and Holly Cardoso.

The medical experts and New Jersey residents called on the state legislature and the Governor to take steps to achieve clean air, according to federal standards, by the year 2005.

The Conference on Health and the Environment took place at the State Bar Association Law Center in New Brunswick, and was sponsored by New Jersey Public Interest Research Group (NJPIRG) and the Grass Roots Environmental Organization (GREO).

ICATW News

by Kerry Butch

Portugal Day

Members of the **Ironbound Committee Against Toxic Waste (ICATW)** proudly marched in the annual **Portugal Day Parade** and were warmly received by the community people watching. ICATW members held signs in English and Portuguese that said, "Ironbound is Cancer Alley," and "Dioxin: Get It Out Of Ironbound!"

Dioxin

At the latest ICATW meeting, the group decided to begin a community education program about dioxin. Dioxin can cause cancer, birth defects, hormone problems, and other problems which impair child development. The two main sources of dioxin in Ironbound are the Diamond Shamrock Superfund site in the "island" section, where the highest levels of dioxin in the United States were found, and the garbage incinerator which produces dioxin as a by-product.

The community education program is linked to a national "Stop Dioxin Exposure Campaign". "As more people understand the dangers of dioxin, we will be able to pressure manufacturers to stop producing dioxin, and protect ourselves and our children from this dangerous chemical," said one ICATW member. To learn more about dioxin, join ICATW at it's next community meeting on **July 25, 1995, 7:00 PM** at St. Stephan's Church on the corner of Ferry St. and Wilson Ave.

Chemical Waste Management

Chemical Waste Management of 100 Lister Ave. in Newark is applying for a renewal of its permit. The purpose of this renewal is to allow them to continue to operate their facility, and to make some changes there. From the information ICATW has been able to get, Chemical Waste Management is planning to go from tank storage to drum storage. Chemical Waste currently has the capacity to store 645,102 gallons of waste in containers and tanks. The new permit proposes an additional 117,260 gallons, for a total of 762,362 gallons of hazardous waste. The new permit will increase the storage time at the site for drums filled with dangerous material from 180 days to 365 days. A part of their plant which has not been used since an explosion in 1991 would be used as a storage area for drums on trucks. The ICATW is asking the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEPE) for an informational hearing so that the people who live in the neighborhood can find out more about the plan. For more information call Kerry at 344-7208.



Lafayette St. School Students Celebrate Earth Day

Lafayette St. School students in the fifth grade, working with their teacher Ms. Diana Silva, performed an original play in honor of Earth Day. The play, set in the form of a quiz show, talked about different ways pollution happens, and what can be done to stop it. Shown above (from left to right are): Stephen Ramos, Marilyn de Amorim, Bruno Lameira, and Joanna Silva.

Ameaça De Mercùrio

Em 1989, quando os residentes do Ironbound lutavam com a finalidade de pararem com a construção do incinerador no bairro do Ironbound, as autoridades responsàveis garantiram que o dito incinerador seria construido com a mais moderna e sofisticada tecnologia e que as operaçóes seriam estritamente fiscalizadas, afim de evitar poluição.

Agora, as mesmas autoridades estáo fugindo as promessas e responsabilidades que assumiram, especialmente no que diz respeito à poluição causada por mercùrio e provenientes do incinerador. Foi regulamentado no ano passado, a quantidade de mercùrio que seria permitido ser emitido pelos incineradores. A administração de Whitman està propondo uma nova legislação a qual permitiria uma maior quantidade de mercurio ser expelido através dos incineradores.

Debaixo da legislação antiga, os operadores de incineradores são obrigados fazerem testes quatro vezes ao ano e reportarem os resultados afim de certificarem que as emissóes de poluentes não ultrapassa ao nivel permitido pela legislação. A nova regulação no entanto, permite aos operadores fazerem os mesmos testes apenas uma vez ao ano, dando uma média como se os testes fossem feitos quatro vezes ao ano. A poluição que ocorrer no intervalo, não terà condiçóes de ser monitorizada. **"Isto significa menos proteção para as pessoas,"** disse Sharon Finlayson. "E um presente para as indùstrias, e quem sabe o quanto custarà aos contribuintes em dinheiro e problemas de saude." Ms. Finlayson era membra de um time especial composto de cientistas, industriais e grupos de cidadãos, o qual foi estabelecido sob a administração do governador Florio, cujo reporte nos leva a regulamentação original.

A nova regulamentação ainda permite aos incineradores outra maneira de atingirem os objetivos da regulamentação por terem 80% do mercùrio expelido reduzido. Se os incineradores estiverem produzindo uma quantidade elevada de mercùrio ao iniciarem as operaçóes, significa que estaráo produzindo uma quantidade mais elevada doque aquela permitida pela legislação. "As pessoas pensam que estão sendo protegidas, o que não é verdade," disse Finlayson.

Sob a regulamentação antiga, se o incinerador fosse encontrado poluindo com mercúrio, seria penalizado com multas de $104.000 à $300.000. O estado agora quer reduzir tais multas que variam de $8000 à $10.000 ($27.40 ao dia, segund o jornal Star Ledger, Junho 11, 1995). "Estas multas são tão pequenas que alguns operadores paga-las, doque fazer qualquer coisa para pararem com a poluição," disse Joe Nardone, do **Comitê do Ironbound Contra Poluição Toxica (ICATW)**. "É ridiculo."

Mercùrio é um metal altamente toxico e que podera causar danos ao sistema nervoso central, rins e do desenvolvimento mental.

Um estudo com aguas da chuva no estado de Nova Jersey concluiu que o indice de mercùrio era muito superior ao que é permitido pelas autoridades da saude. Niveis perigosos de mercùrio foram encontrados em peixes de lagos, riachos e rios, e 300 poços foram fechados por causa de alto nivel de contaminação por mercùrio. Incineradores expelem anualmente centenas de quilos de mercùrio na atmosfera.

"Teremos que lutar por isso," disse June Kruszewski do ICATW. "Não podemos permitir e não permitiremos que nossas crianças sejam contaminadas ou envenenadas. Se existem maneiras de controlar a poluição de mercùrio, terà que ser usada. O que é mais importante, a ganancia das corporaçóes ou a saude de nossas crianças?"

O **ICATW** tem planos de perguntar ao conselho da cidade se eles passaráo alguma lei neste sentido. Leis que visarão o bem estar fisico dos residentes do Ironbound. Farão isso? Haverà um demonstração publica sobre estes assuntos no dia 11 de Julho proximo, em Trenton. Para maiores informaçóes sobre esta e outras reunióes e sobre como voçê podera ajudar nesta luta contra a poluição, por favor contactar Kerry Butch no telefone 589-4668.

Então, O Que Há De Mau Com Mercúrio?

Em 1994, o estado de New Jersey emitiu um aviso de saúde pública alertando as pessoas para não comerem certas qualidades de peixe em 15 localidades do estado. Então, porque foi banido o consumo daquele peixe? Resposta: por causa da presença de mercúrio.

Mercúrio é um elemento metálico pesado e venenoso, com uma cor prateada e esbranquiçada, que se torna líquido a temperaturas normais. Mercúrio pode causar dano no cérebro e no sistema nervoso dos seres humanos. Isto pode manifestar-se em máos que tremem, deficiências na fala, falta de coordenação, cegueira e surdez. Mercúrio pode tambem causar defeitos de nascimento, e pode ainda afectar a habilidade reprodutiva de homens e mulheres.

Um das maiores fontes produtoras de mercúrio que e lançado para o meio ambiente são as chaminés das centrais produtoras de energia que consomem carvão. Outras fontes são as incineradoras municipais. (Baterias usadas e lâmpadas florescentes são a maior fonte de mercurio existente nos lixos, se bem que novos programas agora iniciados exigem que tais artigos sejam retirados dos lixos antes de irem para a incineradora). Uma vez que "o que vai para o ar terá de descer", o mercúrio volta para a superfície da terra quando chove. Mercúrio polui as àguas e o solo. As pessoas mexem com o mercúrio que se encontra no solo quando com este trabalham ou sobre ele brincam ou praticam desporto. Qual é o perigo de tudo isto? Imaginemos isto: se terra contendo um grão de mercúrio do tamanho duma cabeça de alfinete fosse transportada para um quarto de dormir, e fosse depois aspirada, o ar desse quarto seria considerado perigoso para a saúde duma criança que aí dormisse.

Uma vez que o mercùrio esteja no solo, na água ou nos alimentos, e muito difícil retira-lo daí.



O Clube HOPE do Liceu East Side Traz Esperança

O Clube do Meio Ambiente HOPE (Help Our Planet Evolve) do Liceu East Side juntou-se à Greater Newark Conservancy plantando 37 árvores ao longo das ruas Van Buren e Market. Membros do Clube gastaram dois meses fazendo um inventário de árvores na sua vizinhança. Agora, há mais 37 novos árvores, graças ao esforço do membros do Clube HOPE!

ICATW

Em um reunião de Comitê do Ironbound Contra Poluição Tóxica (ICATW), o grupo decidiu comencar uma programa para educar a comunidade sobre o "dioxin." "Dioxin" pode causar cancro, defectos de nascimentos, problemas das hormonas e otras problemas que prejudica o desenvolvimento das crianças. Os dois sítios com as mais altas grandaçóes de "dioxin" estáo no Diamond Shamrock Superfund Site, localizado na secção da "ilha", aonde existe "dioxin" de tanta quantiddade foi encontrada no Estados Unidos, e o incinerador do lixo que produza "dioxin" como um resultante.

Para saber mais sobre "dioxin, vem para próxima reunião do ICATW no **25 de Julho de 1995, às 7 horas da tarde na Igreja de St. Stephen's na esquina de Ferry St. e Wilson Ave.**

¿Que Tán Peligroso Es El Mercúrio?

En 1994, el estado de New Jersey proibió el consumo del pescado proveniente de quince sitios en las aguas de este estado. El porqué de esta proibición fue la contaminación con mercúrio.

El mercúrio es un elemento metálico de color plateado. En temperaturas normales, se mantiene en el estado líquido. El mercúrio puede causar graves daños al cerebro y el sistema nervioso del ser humano. Sus símptomas incluyen temblor de las manos, dificultad de hablar, perdida de coordinación muscular, ceguera y sordera. Puede afectar la capacidad reproductiva de hombres y mujeres, y producir defectos en los nuevo nacidos.

Gran parte de la contaminación con mercúrio proviene de las plantas electricas que utilizan carbón. Otra parte viene de los incineradores de basura, esto mayormente por la quema de pilas y luces fluorescentes desechadas. Hace poco se están empezando programas para sustraer estos productos de la basura quemada en algunos incineradores.

Puesto que "todo lo que sube tiene que bajar", el mercúrio en el aire vuelve a la superficie de la tierra quando llueve, contaminando agua y suelo. Así es que una persona cultivando la tierra, jugando o practicando deportes entra en contacto con ello. ¿Qué tán peligroso es este contacto? Veamos - sí se introduce, junto con el polvo de la calle, una cantidad de mercúrio del tamaño de la cabeza de un alfiler en un cuarto y luego se limpia este cuarto con aspiradora, aún así auedaria suficiente contaminación en al aire del cuarto para causar daño a un niño que allí duerma.

Una vez que el mercúrio entra al aire, el agua, o en el sistema alimentício, es muy dificil que salga. El mercúrio es sumamente tóxico y dañino sobre todo, para los niños y las mujeres embarazadas.



El Clube HOPE de la Escuela East Side Trae Esperanza

El programa H.O.P.E. (Help Our Planet Evolve - Ayuda a la Evolución del Planeta) trabajo con Greater Newark Conservancy para plantar 37 árboles a lo largo de las calles Van Buren y Market. Los estudiantes de HOPE gastaron 2 meses después de clase haciendo el inventorio de árboles en la vecindad. Ahora hay 37 nuevos árboles gracias al trabajo de los miembros de H.O.P.E.

H.O.P.E. tambien celebró su feria anual el 13 de Mayo. Muchas actividades que instruyen a las personas sobre la contaminación ambiental y formas de lidiar con ella tomaron lugar durante el día.

ICATW

En la última reunión de ICATW, el grupo decidió comenzar un programa educacional comunitario sobre la "dioxin." La dioxina cuasan cancer, defectos de naciemiento y otros problemas que dificultan el desarrollo de los pequeños. Las dos mayores fuentes de dioxina en Ironbound son los lugares del Diamond Shamrock Superfind (en la "Isla sección), donde fueron encontrados los niveles mas altos de dioxina en los Estados Unidos, y el incinerador de basura el cual produce dioxina como desperdicio.

Para aprender mas sobre la dioxina unase a la ICATW en su próxima reunión comunitaria el 25 de Julio a las 7:00 PM en la Iglesia de St. Stephan en la esquina de la calle Ferry y la Avenida Wilson.

Amenaza de Mercúrio

En 1989, cuando los residentes de Ironbound estaban luchando por ponerle un paro a la construcción del incinerador en us vecindario, los oficiales del condado y el estado prometieron a los residentes que el incinerador hiba a tener la tecnologia, el cuidado constante, y hiban a estar seguros de que el aire no hiba a ser contaminada.

Ahora, el estado se está hechando para atrás de una regulación de controlar más de cerca la contaminación de mercúrio que sale de los incineradores. Una regulación que ya se habia pasado el año pasado, que se establece por la cantidad de mercúrio que puede estar saliendo del incinerador. La adminstración de Whitman está propiendo una nueva regulación, que puede permitir mucho más mercúrio en el aire.

Sobre la regulación antigua, los operadores del incineradores estaban supuestos a examinar y dal un reporte cuatro veces al año para estar seguros que no estaba saliendo más mercúrio del que estaba supuesto. La nueva regulación permite a los operadores del incinerador reportar solamente una vez al año, y dar el promedio de un cuarto de la medida. El incinerador puede contaminar por buenas partes del año, pero cuando el promedio esté arriba de lo determinado. **"Esto quiere decir que no hay protección,"** dijo Sharon Finlayson. "Esto es un regalo para industrias, y quien sabe que le costará al publico, financieramente y a la salud." Ms. Finlayson fué un miembro de un comite especial hecho de los cientificos, oficiales industriales y grupos de ciudadaños que se establecieron bajo el formato del Gobernador Florio, los cuales reportan a la original regulación de mercúrio.

El nuevo regulación permite a los incineradores otro modo de encontrar otro remedio, por tener una reducción a un 80% en la cantidad de mercúrio que ellos producen. Si ellos estan produciendo una alta cantidad de mercúrio para empezar, esto quiere decir que ellos van a seguir produciendo cantidades lejos sobre el promedio de mercúrio. "Esto va a ser una regulación de palabras solamente," dijo Finlayson. "La gente van a creer que estan protegidas pero en realidad no significa nada."

Bajo la nueva regulación, si un incinerador es encontrado contaminando el aire con mercúrio, habrán multas desde $104..000 a $300.000. Ahora el estado quiere bajar la propuesta de las multas de $8000 a $10,000 (27.40) por dia (de acuerdo al Star Ledger, Junio 11, 1995). "Estas multas son tan bajas que algunos operadores pueden probablemente escoger y pagarlas, en vez de hacer algo para detener el mercúrio," dijo Joe Nardone del **Comité En Contra Desperdicios Tóxicos (ICATW).** "Es algo ridiculo."

Mercúrio es un tóxico del metal que puede causar daños al sistema nervioso y a los riñones y tambien el desarrollo mental lo daña.

Un estudio de la lluvia que cae en el estado de New Jersey enseñó capas de mercúrio que indican que son consideradas malas para la salud. Grupos del medio ambiente no han logrado conseguir copias de este estudio del DEP, de acuerdo a Madelyn Hoffman, directora del GREO.

Niveles inseguros de mercúrio fueron escontrados en pescados de los lagos, en rios y 300 manantiales han sido cerrados por el alto nivel de mercúrio. Los incineradores sueltan cientos de libras de mercúrio en el aire cada año.

"Nosotros tenemos que luchar por esto," dijo June Kruszewski, de ICATW. . "Nosotros no podemos permitir que nuestros niños sean envenenados. Si hay algun otro metodo de controlar esta contaminación de mercúrio. ¿Que es más importante, las ganancias de las corporaciones o nuestros niños?"

El ICATW planea pedirle explicaciones al "City Council" y a los "Freeholders" para pasarle la resolución, oponiéndose a los cambios. Va a ver una vista pública hacerca de la propuesta a los cambios en Julio 11 en Trenton. Para más información hacerca de las proximas reuniones, llame a Kerry Butch, 589-4668.

Ironbound Voices is a project of the Ironbound Community Information Center. We believe that all people are entitled to income, food, clothing, housing, education, and health care. We will print articles about groups taking steps to make this belief a reality. We will also publish information about your legal and social service rights. This issue was published with the help of:

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You Can Help Make Ironbound A Healthier Place For You And Your Children

Next Meeting
Ironbound Committee Against Toxic Waste

July 25, 7:00 PM
St. Stephan's Church
Wilson Ave. & Ferry St.
For more information call 589-4668.

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